

3-month	1-month	About the Outlook	Shifts in likelihood	What is average?	Q&A	Find out more
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3-month summary

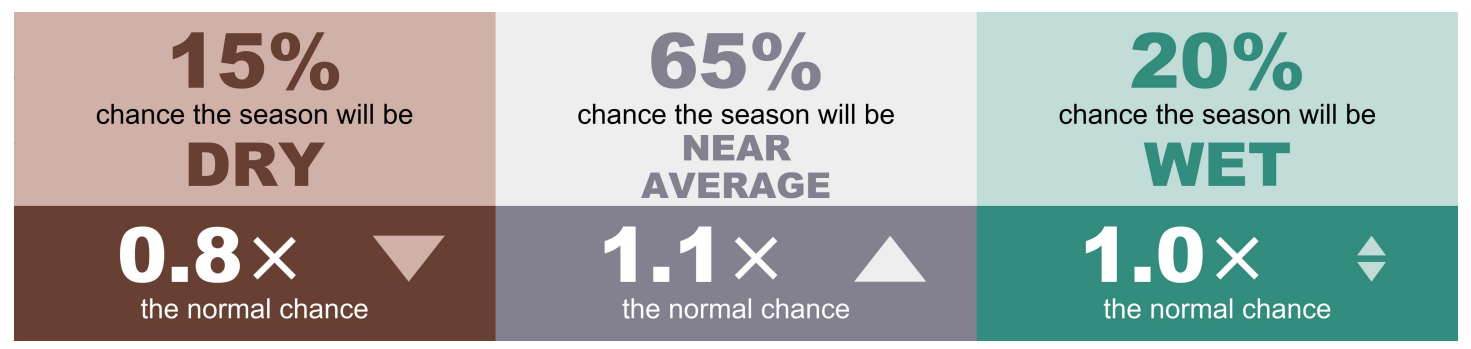
- The chance of a hot summer is higher than normal but is similar to recent years
- This brings an increased likelihood of heatwaves and heat-related impacts
- The chances of a wet or dry summer are fairly balanced

3-month likelihood of impact

Temperature



Precipitation



Wind speed



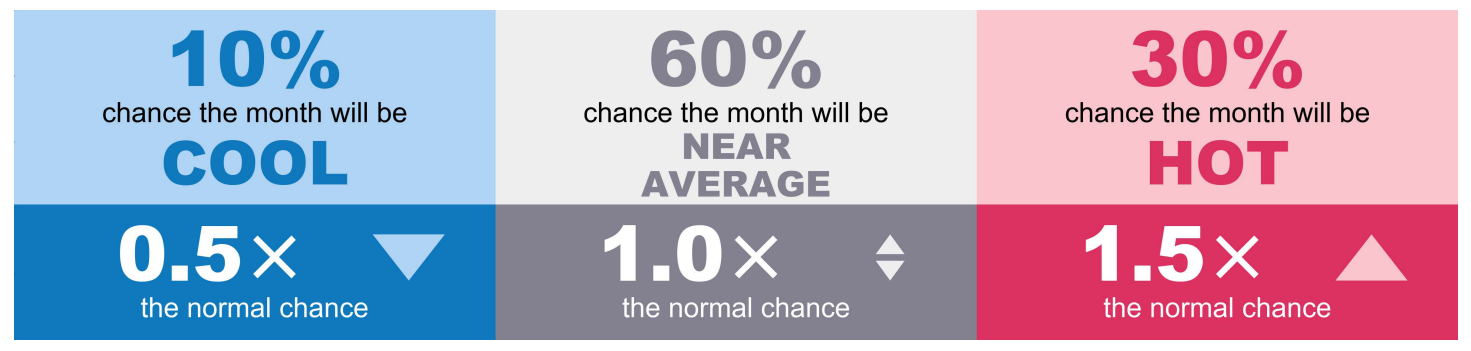
3-month	1-month	About the Outlook	Shifts in likelihood	What is average?	Q&A	Find out more
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1-month summary

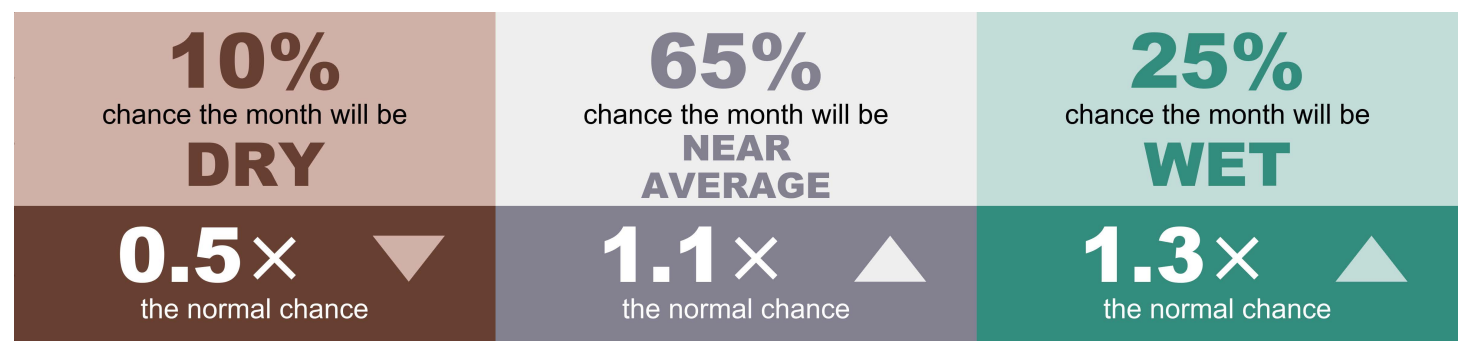
- Slightly higher than normal chance of a hot month
- The likelihood of a wet month is slightly higher than average
- An increased chance of localised impacts from thundery downpours

1-month likelihood of impact

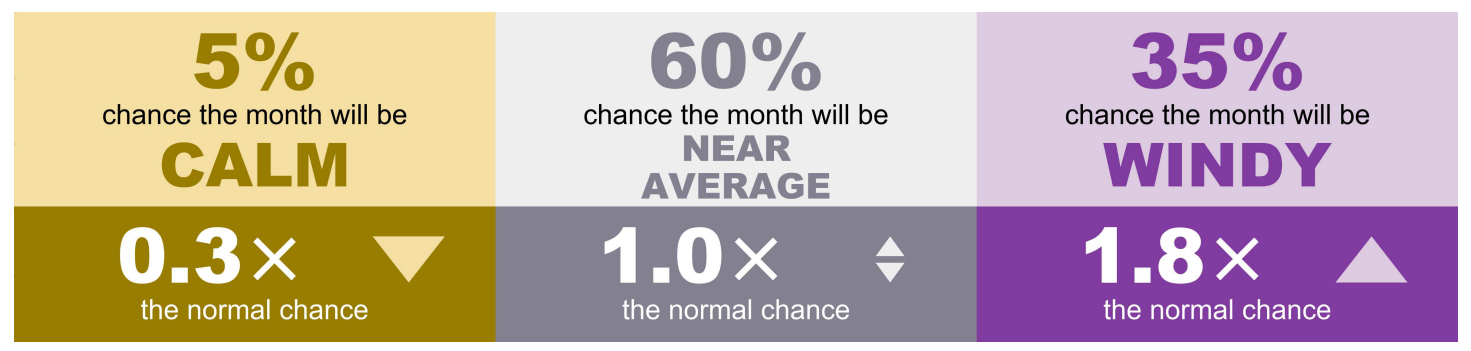
Temperature



Precipitation



Wind speed



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Understanding the Outlook

The Outlook uses 3 categories for possible UK temperature, precipitation and wind speed in the next 1 and 3 months:

- COOL, NEAR AVERAGE and HOT for temperature
- WET, NEAR AVERAGE and DRY for precipitation
- CALM, NEAR AVERAGE and WINDY for wind speed

These are linked to observed UK conditions in past years. The NEAR AVERAGE category represents typical conditions for the period and has a normal likelihood of 60%. The higher and lower categories represent more unusual conditions that are more likely to produce impacts. Each has a normal likelihood of 20%.

The Outlook shows how the chances of occurrence of the categories differ from normal, based on knowledge of expected global meteorological patterns. It does not identify which category will actually occur.

Same 3-month period over the last 10 years

2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
NEAR AVERAGE	COOL	NEAR AVERAGE	NEAR AVERAGE	HOT	NEAR AVERAGE	NEAR AVERAGE	HOT	HOT	HOT
NEAR AVERAGE	NEAR AVERAGE	NEAR AVERAGE	NEAR AVERAGE	DRY	WET	WET	DRY	DRY	NEAR AVERAGE
CALM	WINDY	NEAR AVERAGE	WINDY	CALM	NEAR AVERAGE	NEAR AVERAGE	CALM	NEAR AVERAGE	NEAR AVERAGE

Same 1-month period over the last 10 years

2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
HOT	NEAR AVERAGE	NEAR AVERAGE	HOT	HOT	NEAR AVERAGE	NEAR AVERAGE	HOT	NEAR AVERAGE	HOT
NEAR AVERAGE	NEAR AVERAGE	NEAR AVERAGE	WET	DRY	WET	NEAR AVERAGE	NEAR AVERAGE	NEAR AVERAGE	NEAR AVERAGE
CALM	NEAR AVERAGE	CALM	WINDY	NEAR AVERAGE	NEAR AVERAGE	NEAR AVERAGE	NEAR AVERAGE	NEAR AVERAGE	NEAR AVERAGE

Outlook in context

Drivers of UK weather for June to August

Global weather patterns can affect UK weather during the coming season and their influence acts to shift the chances of the categories in the Outlook. However, the influence of many of these drivers on the UK climate tends to be small at this time of year.

- Drivers relevant to the current Outlook include:
- The warming of UK climate consistent with wider global warming trends.
 - Stratospheric winds – the normal spring transition from westerly to easterly in direction has been delayed this year, slightly favouring settled conditions during summer.
 - Widely above average sea surface temperatures across the North Atlantic.
 - ENSO continues to move back to a neutral phase following El Nino with a transition to La Nina possible during late summer or into autumn.

Long-range weather predictions

The Met Office and other prediction centres around the world routinely produce long-range forecasts of conditions in the months ahead. As is typical for forecasts made at this time of year, signals for prevailing weather patterns over the UK during summer are relatively weak. There is a slight signal favouring westerly winds but this results in very limited shifts in probabilities for rainfall. The increased likelihood of a hot summer is likely being largely driven by the background warming of the UK climate.

Impacts

Consistent with our warming climate, there is an increase in the likelihood of hotter than normal conditions. Signals for the summer, in terms of temperatures, are similar to recent years. This doesn't necessarily mean that the UK will see heatwaves and heat-related impacts but the likelihood of these is higher than normal. Whilst rainfall signals are limited, some spells of unsettled weather can be expected. As is typical for the time of year, these spells are likely to see heavy downpours and thunderstorms for some regions. Compared to normal there is an increased likelihood of a windy period but this at a time of year when the chance of impactful winds remains low.

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Outlook compared to normal likelihood

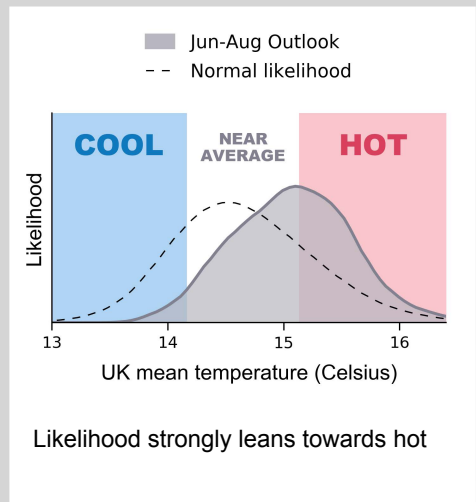
The curves below show the likelihood of the 1- and 3-month average temperature, precipitation and wind speed taking specific values. In each case:

- The dashed curve shows the normal likelihood based on how often each value has been recorded in past years
- The solid curve shows the current likelihood based on the Outlook for this year

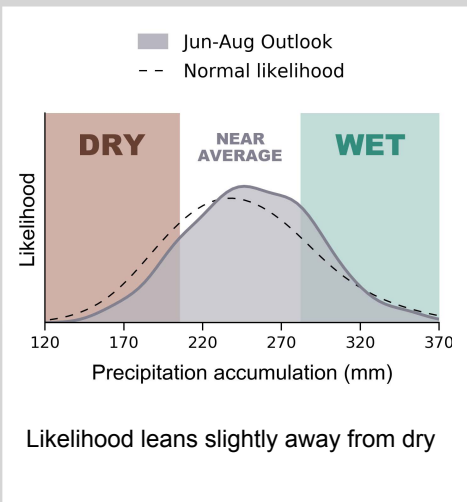
The differences in these curves show how the probabilities for the coming periods differ compared to past years. Where the solid curve (corresponding to this year's Outlook) lies above the dashed curve (normal likelihood), the temperature, precipitation or wind speed at that point has a greater-than-normal likelihood of occurring. Likewise, wherever it is below the dashed curve, the likelihood of those values is less than normal.

A shift of the solid curve to the left of the dashed curve indicates an increase in the chances of below-average temperature, rainfall or winds. A shift to the right, meanwhile, indicates increased chances of above-average values.

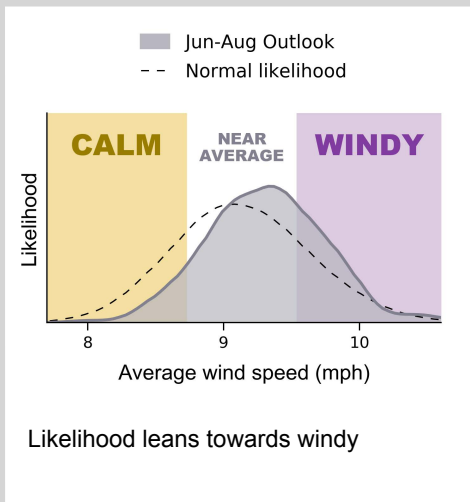
3-month temperature Outlook compared to normal



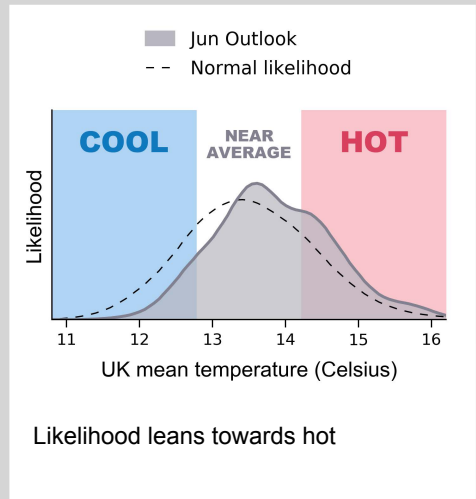
3-month precipitation Outlook compared to normal



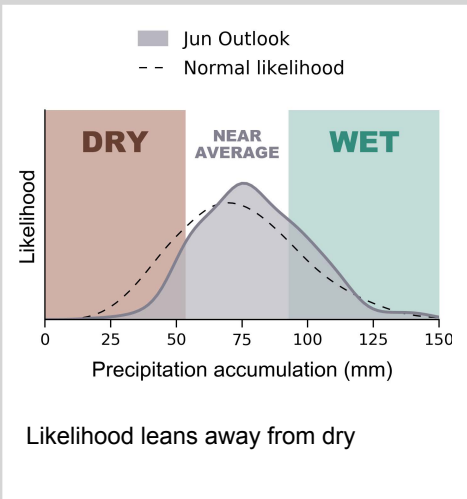
3-month wind speed Outlook compared to normal



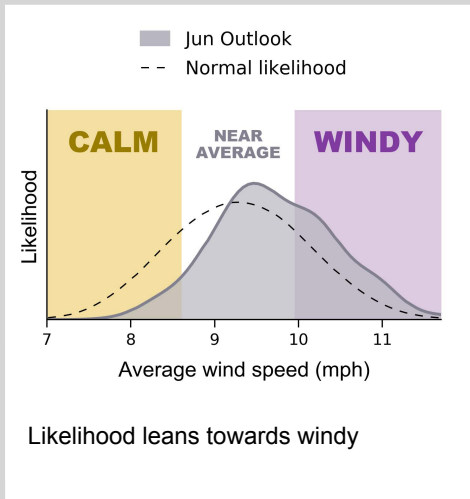
1-month temperature Outlook compared to normal



1-month precipitation Outlook compared to normal



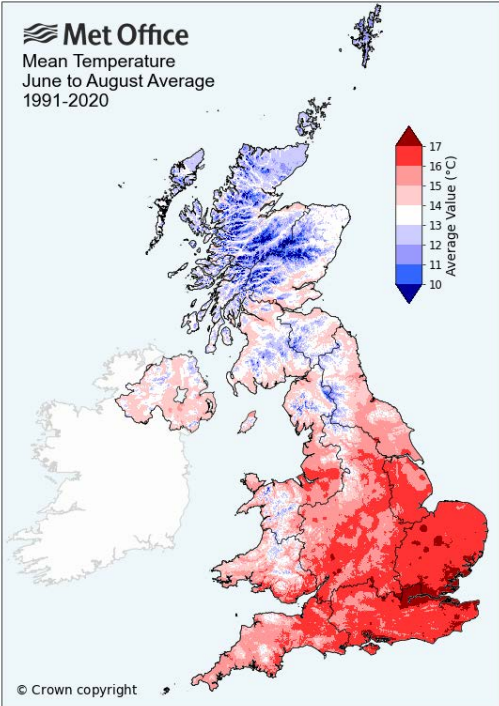
1-month wind speed Outlook compared to normal



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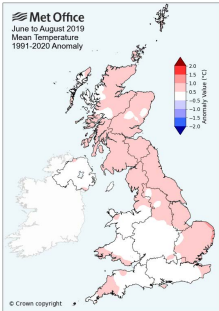
Long-term average temperatures (3-month)

This page shows the long-term average temperatures across the UK applicable to the 3-month Outlook period.

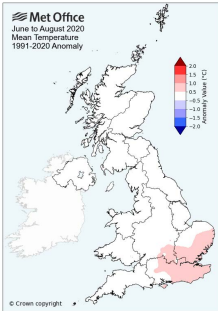


Average temperatures for June - August based on observations of past years.

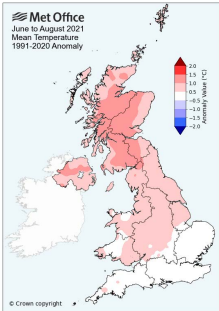
Last 5 years temperatures, difference from average (3-month)



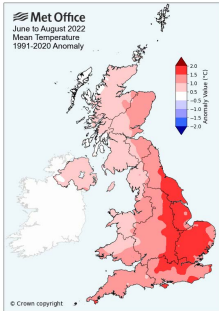
Jun - Aug 2019



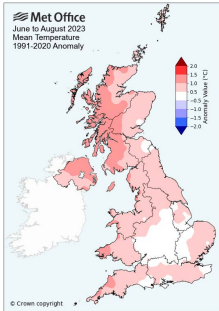
Jun - Aug 2020



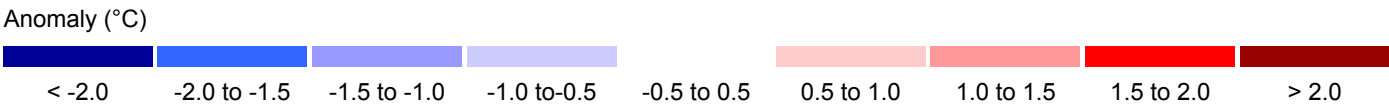
Jun - Aug 2021



Jun - Aug 2022



Jun - Aug 2023

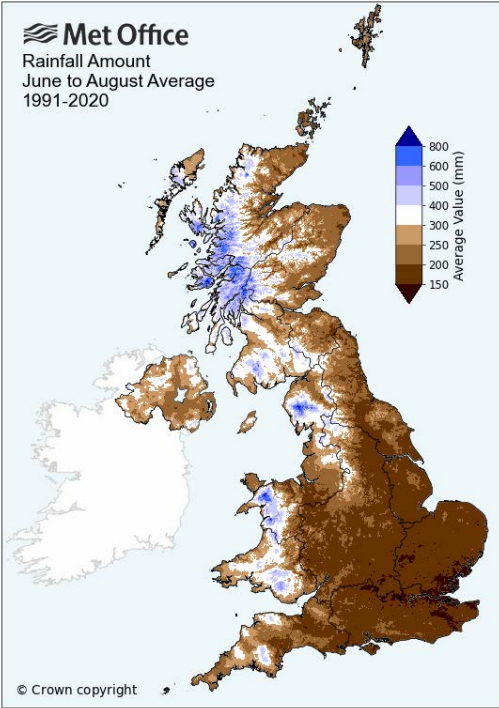


These maps show how June - August temperatures in the last five years differed from the long-term average temperatures shown above in the upper panel. Pink and red colours indicate hotter-than-average conditions while blue shades indicate cooler-than-average conditions. Detailed information on the climate of the UK is available at www.metoffice.gov.uk/climate.

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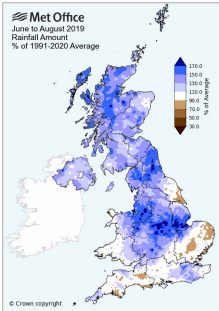
Long-term average precipitation (3-month)

This page shows the long-term average precipitation across the UK applicable to the 3-month Outlook period.

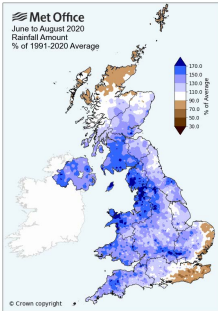


Average precipitation for June - August based on observations of past years.

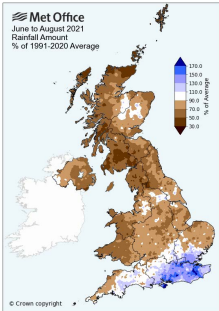
Last 5 years precipitation, difference from average (3-month)



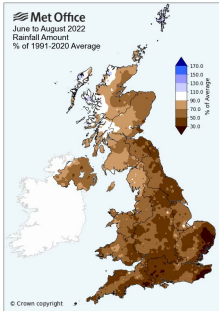
Jun - Aug 2019



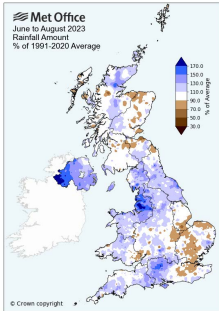
Jun - Aug 2020



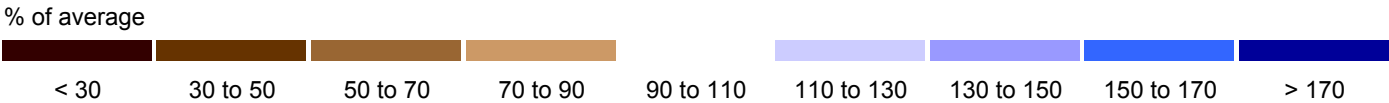
Jun - Aug 2021



Jun - Aug 2022



Jun - Aug 2023

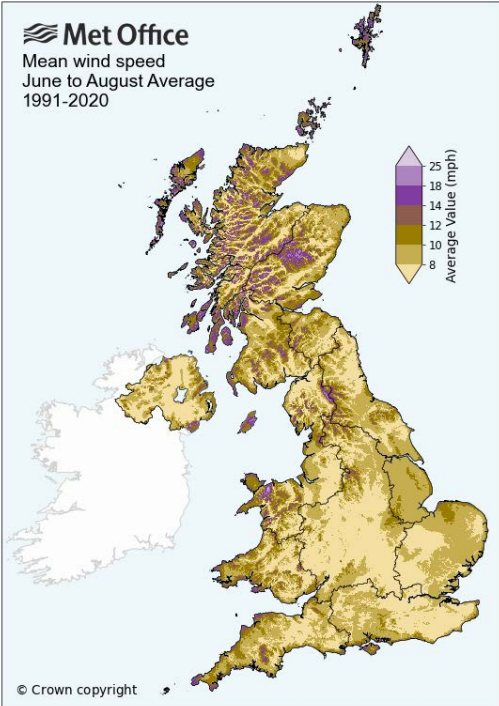


These maps show how June - August precipitation in the last five years differed from the long-term average precipitation shown above in the upper panel. Brown colours indicate drier-than-average conditions while blue shades indicate wetter-than-average conditions. Detailed information on the climate of the UK is available at www.metoffice.gov.uk/climate.

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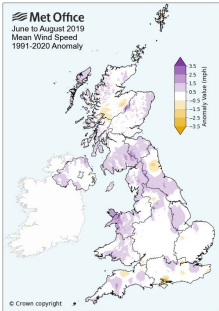
Long-term average wind speed (3-month)

This page shows the long-term average wind speed across the UK applicable to the 3-month Outlook period.

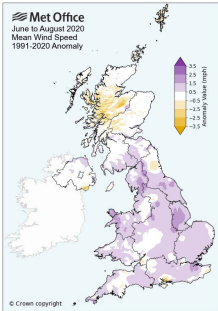


Average wind speed for June - August based on observations of past years.

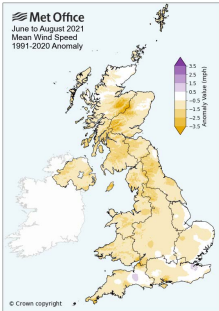
Last 5 years wind speed, difference from average (3-month)



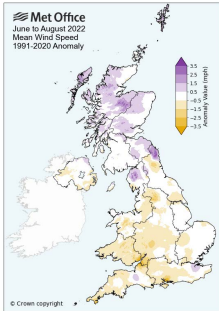
Jun - Aug 2019



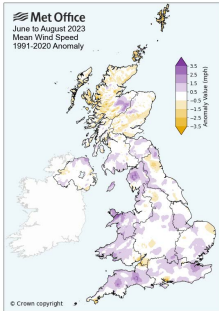
Jun - Aug 2020



Jun - Aug 2021

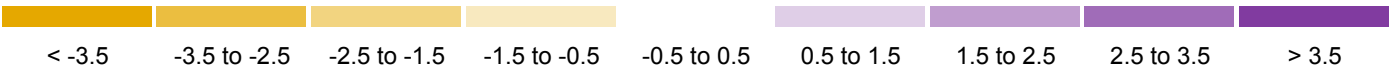


Jun - Aug 2022



Jun - Aug 2023

Anomaly (mph)

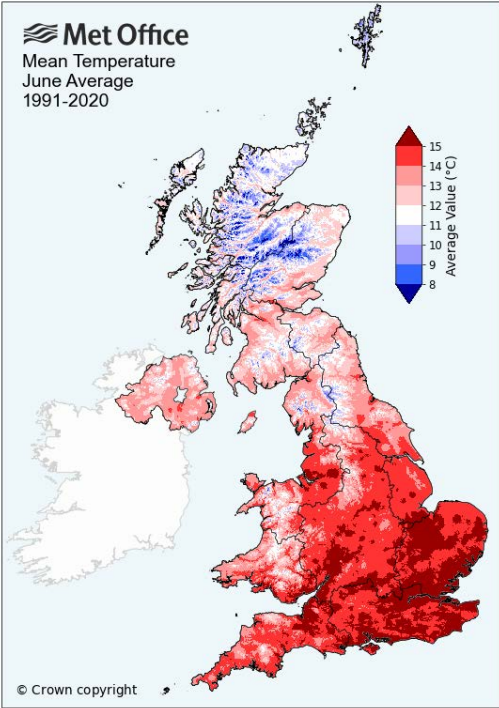


These maps show how June - August wind speed in the last five years differed from the long-term average wind speeds shown above in the upper panel. Yellow colours indicate calmer-than-average conditions while purple shades indicate windier-than-average conditions. Detailed information on the climate of the UK is available at www.metoffice.gov.uk/climate.

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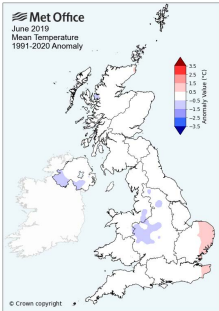
Long-term average temperatures (1-month)

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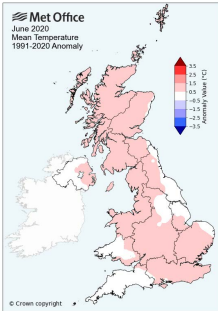


Average temperatures for June based on observations of past years.

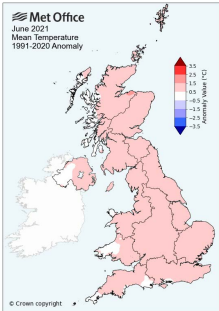
Last 5 years temperatures, difference from average (1-month)



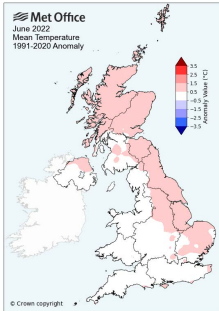
Jun 2019



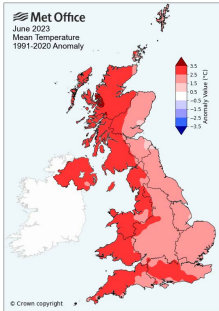
Jun 2020



Jun 2021

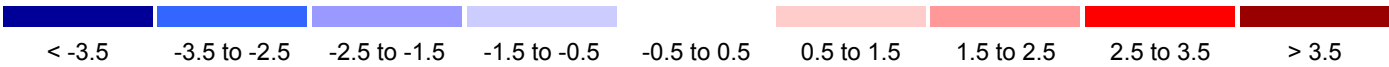


Jun 2022



Jun 2023

Anomaly (°C)

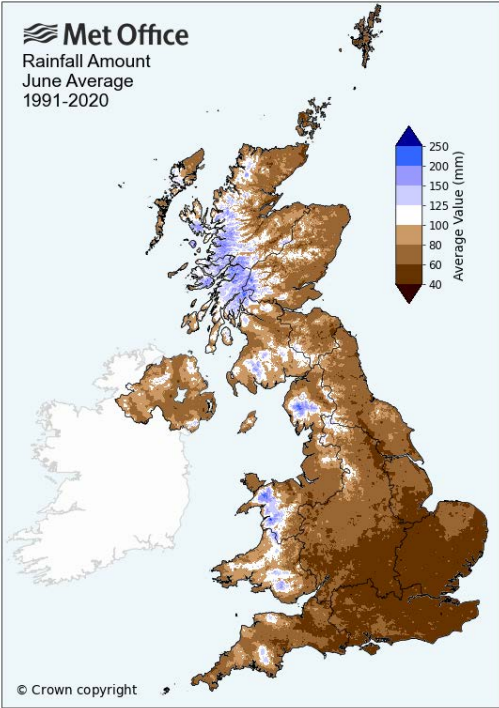


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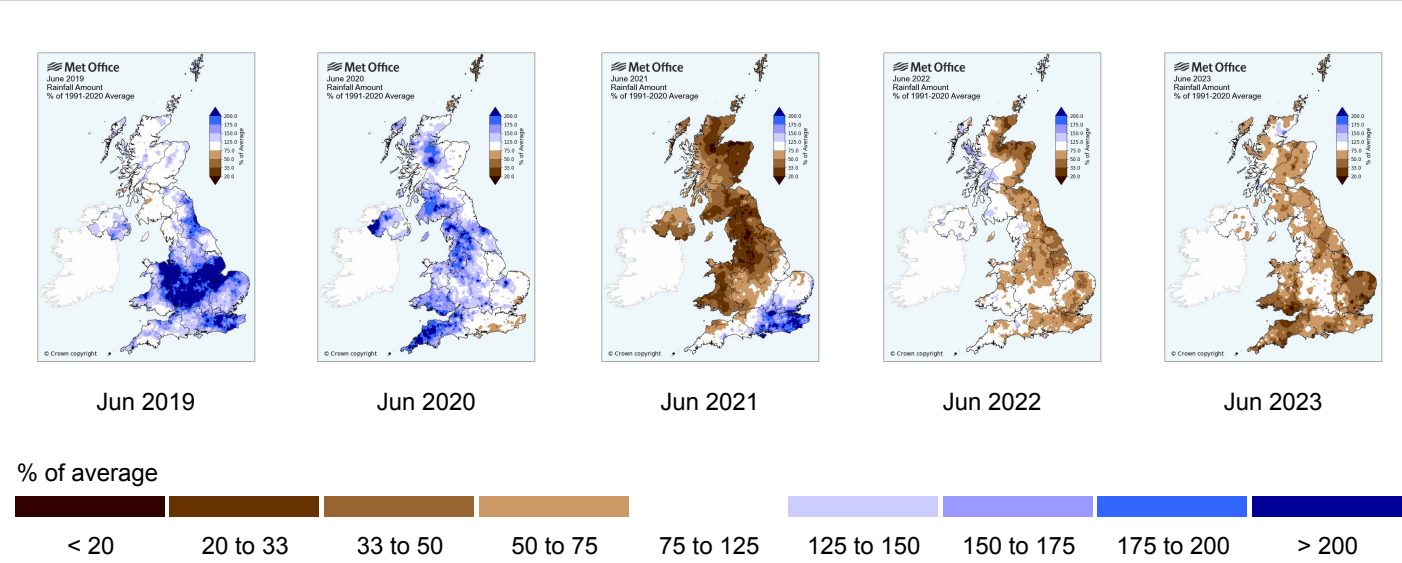
Long-term average precipitation (1-month)

This page shows the long-term average precipitation across the UK applicable to the 1-month Outlook period.



Average precipitation for June based on observations of past years.

Last 5 years precipitation, difference from average (1-month)

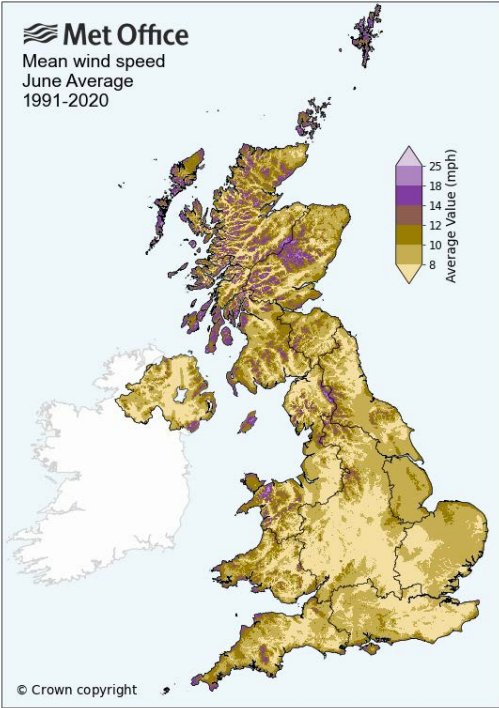


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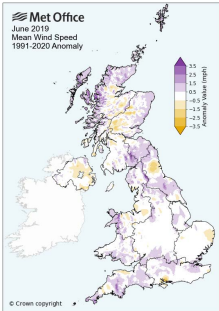
Long-term average wind speed (1-month)

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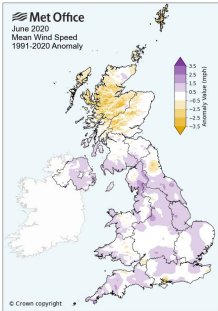


Average wind speed for June based on observations of past years.

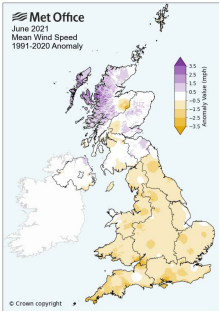
Last 5 years wind speed, difference from average (1-month)



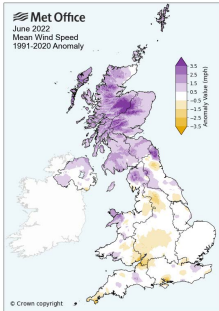
Jun 2019



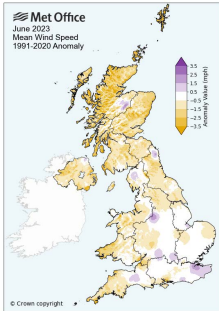
Jun 2020



Jun 2021

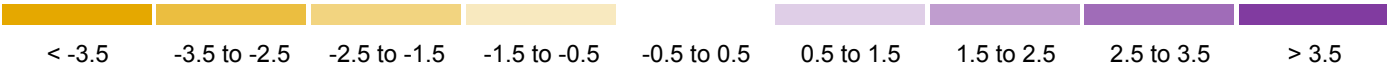


Jun 2022



Jun 2023

Anomaly (mph)



These maps show how June wind speed in the last five years differed from the long-term average wind speeds shown above in the upper panel. Yellow colours indicate calmer-than-average conditions while purple shades indicate windier-than-average conditions. Detailed information on the climate of the UK is available at www.metoffice.gov.uk/climate.

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Q&As

Q. What is the point of the Outlook, who is it meant for?

A. This Outlook is produced for planners in government and business who make risk-based decisions. These users are aware of the complexities of this type of outlook and will include those factors in their decision-making process.

Q. How did you decide on the Outlook? What are the main factors affecting it?

A. It is based on information from observations, several numerical prediction systems and expert judgement. See the 'Outlook in Context' section of the Outlook for more details.

Q. Is the Outlook for the whole country?

A. The Outlook is for the average of conditions over the UK as a whole. Regional deviations from the UK-average can occur. For example, average UK precipitation can result from below-average rainfall for the northwest and above-average for the southeast.

Q. How confident are you in this Outlook?

A. The percentages in the 'Likelihood of Impact' sections of the Outlook give the level of confidence.

Q. What does this Outlook tell us regarding rainfall and associated impacts this summer?

A. The Outlook shows the chances of a dry summer for the UK are close to average, however, some spells of unsettled weather can be expected. As is typical for the time of year, these spells are likely to see heavy downpours and thunderstorms for some regions and therefore a chance of localised impacts such as flash flooding are possible. Rainfall totals are likely to vary considerably in these situations. Any detailed questions about long-term hydrological prospects should be referred to UKCEH (<http://www.hydoutuk.net/>). Questions about potential impacts from heavy rainfall such as flooding in your area should be referred to the Environment Agency, SEPA, Natural Resources Wales or NI Direct websites.

Q. Does the increased chance of hot weather this summer mean we could see heatwaves or temperatures reaching 40C again?

A. Signals with regard temperatures this summer are similar to recent years and consistent with our warming climate, although the likelihood of temperatures reaching 40C in the UK still remains quite low. Whilst the chance of seeing a hot summer is higher than normal, the Outlook is not a guarantee of prolonged hot weather or heatwaves, and an increased chance of hot conditions could just as easily reflect fairly typical summer conditions with a mix of hot and cool days, warm nights, or less extreme levels of warmth rather than continual heatwave conditions specifically. The Outlook does not pin down when hot conditions might occur.

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About the Outlook

The Outlook presented here is for United Kingdom as a whole and is based on information from observations, several numerical prediction systems and expert judgement. It is updated monthly to reflect the latest information on global weather patterns and their effect on the UK. The Outlook is designed to be used in conjunction with shorter-range forecasts – detailed weather forecast information is available on the Met Office website.

In this product, temperature refers to the average of daytime maxima and night-time minima. Wind speed refers to the average wind speed at a height of 10 metres. All numerical values relate to averages (temperature, wind speed) or totals (precipitation – rain, sleet, snow and hail) over 1 or 3 months, which are further averaged over the UK land area as a whole. Normal likelihood and long-term averages are established using the period 1991-2020.

Find out more

- UK 3-month Outlook user guidance page:
<https://www.metoffice.gov.uk/services/government/contingency-planners/user-guidance/user-guidance>
- Explaners on climate drivers (such as the El Niño Southern Oscillation and North Atlantic Oscillation) that influence seasonal forecasts and the impacts they can have on UK weather:
<https://www.metoffice.gov.uk/services/government/contingency-planners/seasonal-forecasts-and-climate-drivers-resources>
- Contingency planners page:
<https://www.metoffice.gov.uk/services/government/contingency-planners/index>

Contact us

Website:
www.metoffice.gov.uk

Email:
enquiries@metoffice.gov.uk

Provide your feedback

We would like to hear your feedback on the UK 3-month Outlook to understand how it is being used. Please fill in the short form using this [link](#) or QR code to share your thoughts.

